CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: The Legend of Baron To'a

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 2000045.000

Medium: Film (online)

Distributor: Madman Cinema

Director: Kiel McNaughton

FVLB Applicant: Madman Cinema

Producer: Kerry Warkia

Owen Black

Country of origin: Aotearoa New Zealand

Language: English, Tongan

Applicant: Chief Censor

Classification: Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years or who are accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Contains violence and offensive language.

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 03 February 2020

Date of direction to issue

a label:

No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: No notice of decision has been issued

| | Components | Running time |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Feature(s): | The Legend of Baron To'a | 105:28 |
| Total running time: | | 105:28 |

Summary of reasons for decision:

Due to concerns raised by the distributor regarding previous advice given by the Classification Office, the Chief Censor made the decision to submit this film for reconsideration under s42(3) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act) due to special circumstances. The film contains depictions of violence, criminal acts, and highly offensive language. Although children do not necessarily possess the intellectual and emotional maturity to correctly understand these depictions, a conversation about this content with a parent or guardian is likely to explain and clarify the issues in the film, and in that manner mitigate any likely injury to the public good. The film's cultural and social merit strengthens the case for widening the film's availability in limited circumstances to children. As such the film is classified RP13. This restriction on availability is the minimum necessary to prevent injury to the public good and is a justified and reasonable limitation to the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.